

**A Manual of Diseases of Infants and Children.**

By John Ruhrah, M. D., Professor of Diseases of Children, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md. Fourth edition, thoroughly revised. 12mo. volume of 552 pages, 175 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1915. Cloth, \$2.50 net.

Dr. Ruhrah's revised and re-edited fourth edition of the Manual of Diseases of Infants and Children is probably one of the best rapid reference books for clinical use. The 176 text figures are well chosen and for the most part well reproduced. There are several new chapters, one on pellagra, another on drug eruptions, and a very good chapter on mental defects, with a full account of the Binet-Simon method for testing intelligence. Altogether the book is one of the best of its kind, though it cannot take the place of a standard textbook for students. As a reference book it has a very definite place, not only in the library of the student, but in that of the practitioner as well.

W. P. L.

**Diseases of the Nose and Throat.**

By Algernon Coolidge, M. D., Professor of Laryngology in the Harvard Medical School. 12mo. of 360 pages, illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1915. Cloth \$1.50 net.

"The object of this book is to guide the student or practitioner of medicine in his clinical work, by giving him a ready reference to the important details of examination, diagnosis and treatment of the upper respiratory tract."

It has long been the theory of some teachers to give only such special instruction to students as would cause them to immediately refer the case to the specialist. Such may not have been the primary object of the book, but if the ordinary practitioner depended on the very meager and elementary knowledge contained in this volume, such would be the effect.

There are a few outline woodcuts which serve as illustrations, the type is clear and the paper good, but whether these advantages are enough to justify the publication of the volume seems doubtful.

H. H.

**Cancer: Its Study and Prevention.**

By Howard Canning Taylor, M. D., Gynecologist to the Roosevelt Hospital, New York; Professor of Clinical Gynecology, Columbia University; Member American Society for the Control of Cancer, etc. 12mo, 330 pages. Cloth, \$2.50 net. Lea & Febiger, publishers, Philadelphia and New York, 1915.

Dr. Taylor approaches the problem of cancer by making use of all the knowledge we have so far acquired, giving us a most useful volume for reference, and a concise yet complete presentation of the facts relating to cancer which we now possess.

His chapters on "Precancerous Lesions," "Contagiousness" and "Spontaneous Cures" are very interesting and instructive.

After five preliminary chapters of general information, the remainder of the book is occupied by taking up in detail the consideration of cancer in all anatomical regions; reviewing statistics as to frequency, age, sex, etiology, prognosis, treatment, etc.; each chapter being followed by a list of references.

E. H. W.

**A Synopsis of Medical Treatment.**

By George Cheever Shattuck, M. D., Assistant Physician to the Massachusetts General Hospital. Second Edition revised and enlarged. Cloth. 185 pp. Boston. W. M. Leonard, Publisher. 1915. Price \$1.25.

The second printing of this little book shows

some changes that make a decided difference in its appearance. The binding itself lends dignity. The contents have been changed very slightly since the first appearance of this edition. From the original edition, it is different in many ways. There have been added chapters on the Acute Inflammations of the Upper Respiratory Tract, Diarrhoea, Gastritis, and Constipation. These additions have followed the general plan of the book, namely, the presentation of sound principles of treatment based on known pathology.

As a book for practitioners it is very timely as there is need for just such a book which will bring to the mind the real scientific methods of therapy. The plan of this volume is well arranged. The following points are given: Classification of the Disease; Notes on Pathology and Diagnosis; Methods of Treatment, both general and special; and finally a list of the most useful drugs, with a concise description of dosage, action, indication for use and contraindications, together with a list of the substitutes for each drug.

To the student of medicine this book can be very highly recommended. Of course there are many points not included in its 185 pages but one may be sure that whatever is found in this concise volume is as accurate as medical science can make it.

W. W. B.

**John Shaw Billings, A Memoir.**

By Fielding H. Garrison, M. D. Illustrated. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London. 1915. Price \$2.50.

This interesting biography of one of our own "Masters of Medicine" tells, simply and entertainingly, of the multitudinous activities in which Dr. Billings engaged during his long and useful life. The reader follows the subject of the volume through his early boyhood and youth, his service as army surgeon during the Civil War, in the Surgeon General's Library at Washington, at the Johns Hopkins Medical School and in the New York Public Library and is amazed at the amount of work accomplished and the quality of the finished product. It seems hardly credible that so much good work could have been crowded into the space of one lifetime, for any one of his three great labors would be considered as a sufficient life work for a man of even extraordinary capabilities.

In the compass of 432 pages the compiler has brought together, in easily readable form, much valuable information concerning the several public enterprises to the successful completion of which Dr. Billings devoted his time and energies. Numerous letters written while he was attached to the army in the field make interesting reading at this time and many observations made by this keen analyst regarding the care of the wounded and on many other topics connected with war in general will hold as good to-day as they did then.

The book can be read by any person, lay or professional, with interest, but to the young especially it is to be recommended as a source of inspiration, for every page sets forth this greatest of all truths: "Sufficient to the day is the labor thereof," and by example teaches that each day has its duties and that only by a conscientious performance of these as they arise will the sum total be worth while.

T. G. I.

**Clinical Diagnosis. A Manual of Laboratory Methods.**

By James Campbell Todd, M. D., Professor of Pathology, University of Colorado. Third edition, revised and enlarged. 12mo of 585 pages with 176 text illustrations and 13 colored plates. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1914. Cloth \$2.50 net.

Dr. Todd has divided his book into an Introduction, which deals with the use of the Micro-